competition would lead to reduction in prices. However, inflationary pressures, high cost of R & D also have to be reckoned with.

Militancy in Nagaland

988. SHRI L. RAMANA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received reports that part of the money collected from the Nagaland State Lotteries passes on to groups of Nagaland Militants from which they purchase arms and ammunition;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have taken up this matter with the Government of Nagaland; and

(d) the steps taken to break the nexus?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) Government has seen newspaper reports to the effect that the sole distributor of Nagaland lotteries has made payments to militant groups.

(c) and (d) Government of Nagaland have been advised to stop the running of State Lotteries immediately till inquires into the allegations are over.

Investment on Storage Capacity by FCI

989. SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the initiatives taken during the last one year to streamline and modernise the operations and network of FCI in the country; and

(b) the details of investment proposed on storage during the current year and the next three years for addition/expansion/modernisation of FCI particularly in Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) To streamline and modernise the storage operations, FCI has undertaken upgradation of existing Railway Sidings, including electrification. FCI is replacing old mechanical lorry weighbridges with the electronic weighbridges. FCI has also installed in-motion wagon weighbridges for purpose of rake weighment.

In order to modernise conventional storage systems, FCI is examining bin/vacuum technology system etc.

(b) For the current financial year, the budget allocation is Rs. 20 crores. In Maharashtra, FCI has planned a storage capacity of 15,000 MT at Sholapur involving an investment of about Rs. 1 crore.

[Translation]

Grants for Handicapped Children School

990. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of assistance being provided to the societies running schools for mentally retarded and physically handicapped children;

(b) whether the Government have any scheme to provide hundred percent assistance to the societies;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) The Central Government extends financial assistance upto 40% of the total admissible grant to the NGOs/Societies following the favourable recommendation of the State Govts.

(b) to (d) No Sir, does not arise.

[English]

Changes in Coca Cola Holdings

991. SHRI SANAT MEHTA : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the request for changes in Coca Cola South Asia Holdings (CCSAH) $ 700 million proposal has been submitted to the Secretariat for Industrial Approvals (SIA) without vetting by the Ministry of Food Processing;

(b) whether SIA has sent the proposal for the consideration of the Cabinet Committee on Foreign Investment;

(c) if so, the reasons for bypassing the Ministry of Food Processing; and

(d) the normal guidelines for proposals affecting more than one Ministry?